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POLREP

Date: April 25, 1994
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Subject: Lake Salvage Company

Polrep No.: 1
Site No.: 4TFA05F8ZJ
Response Auth.: Emergency
NPL Status: NON-NPL
Start Date: 4/19/94

BACKGROUND:

The Lake Salvage Company (LSC) site is an inactive incinerator facility located at 2527 West Lake Street in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois, at which the plastic coating was burned off copper wire and cable as part of the recycling process. Neighboring properties and much of the area are light industrial and commercial, but there are also residential buildings within one city block, as well as public housing projects and schools within a half mile. The property has a mostly paved yard and a one-story cinder block building, as well as two steel, concrete, and brick incinerators. The property was only partially fenced before the removal action. Graffiti, empty liquor bottles, and other evidence indicated frequent trespassing.

An emergency removal action was necessary at the site to eliminate the threat posed by the presence of large amounts of ash, dust, and other materials containing dioxin in concentrations of up to at least 25 ppb.

The LSC facility closed in September 1986 after being in business since the 1950s. In April 1987 the Illinois EPA (IEPA) collected soil and ash samples on-site that analyzed high in 2,3,7,8-TCDD and its isomers. In July 1990 the Field Investigation Team (FIT) conducted a Screening Site Inspection (SSI) of the site for the US EPA, during which several holes were noted in the site fence. Analysis of several soil and ash samples collected by FIT indicated concentrations of toxic equivalent (TE) dioxin up to 64.5 ug/kg, as well as several semi-volatile compounds at low levels, PCBs as Aroclor 1248 and 1254 up to 5,200 ug/kg, and lead

to 7,550 mg/kg.

During March 1994 the OSC and the Technical Assistance Team (TAT) conducted a site assessment, noting holes in the site building and fence, graffiti, bottles, a car seat inside one incinerator, large amounts of rubbish all over the site, and large amounts of ash inside the open incinerator, in open drums, and on the ground throughout the site. Analysis of ash, dirt, and fire brick samples collected by TAT resulted in TE dioxin concentrations of up to 25.1 ug/kg. The TE dioxin action level for residential areas is 1 ug/kg, while that for industrial sites is 20 ug/kg.

Due to the dioxin threat to people and the environment from possible exposure to on-site ash, the OSC obtained verbal authority to spend an estimated \$16,000.00 to mobilize Riedel Environmental Systems, Inc. (RES), the ERCS contractor, to the site to perform a time-critical removal of loose ash and dust, and to secure the site against trespass.

SITUATION:

On 4/19/94, the OSC tasked RES to mobilize personnel and equipment to the site; clear the site loading area of rubbish to make room for rolloff boxes; fill one 20-cubic-yard rolloff with non-hazardous waste (to be able to get at the underlying hazardous waste); temporarily secure the site with plywood and chainlink fence; mount hazard warning signs around the site perimeter.

On 4/20/94, one 20-cu-yd rolloff of non-hazardous waste was removed from site for disposal and another filled. Fifteen drums of hazardous waste were emptied and crushed, and three 1-cu-yd bulk bags were filled with hazardous waste. Temporary site fencing was reinforced with 10 1/2-foot steel poles sunk about 2 feet into the ground.

On 4/21/94, hazardous material was removed from the western (open) incinerator and the room it occupies. Approximately 25 drums of hazardous waste were emptied and crushed. This and other hazardous waste was staged in a pile on-site for later bagging. One 20-cu-yd and one 15-cu-yd rolloffs of non-hazardous waste were removed from the site for disposal. TAT collected a 2 1/2-quart composite dirt/ash sample from the staging area for disposal parameters analysis.

On 4/22/94, the remaining approximately 40 drums of hazardous material were emptied and crushed. The site was swept of loose dirt and ash. Hazardous ash/dust was bulked in 1-cu-yd bulk bags and transferred to a 16-cu-yd rolloff, which was covered and secured on-site for later disposal by the PRP. The 2 1/2-qt ash/dust sample was picked up from site by Quality Analytical Labs of Lisle, IL for disposal analysis. Liquid from a capacitor found on-site was tested by TAT at their warehouse for PCBs and

found to possibly contain PCBs but at a concentration below 50 ppm. After securing the site, RES, the OSC, and TAT demobilized.

NEXT STEPS:

The PRP is to arrange for off-site disposal of the hazardous materials rolloff. Pending further extent of contamination (EOC) studies and a consent order, the PRP may be required to demolish and remove both on-site incinerators and the on-site building.

COSTS:

ERCS	\$15,906	4/18 - 4/21
	<u>5,000</u>	4/22 (estimated)
	20,906	
TAT	4,770	4/18 - 4/22 (53 hrs. X \$40 X 2.25 multiplier)
OSC	1,500	4/18 - 4/22 (est. 50 hrs. X \$30)
TOTAL	\$27,176	to date